

AC. 44.3 (3)

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE

1969

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W. MOORE, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

AND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

P.F. WEST, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COUNCIL OFFICES,

OXTED, SURREY.

(Telephone No. Oxted 3232)

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Also Medical Officer of Health, Reigate M.B.
and Deputy Divisional Medical Officer, Surrey C.C.)

WILLIAM MOORE, M.B., B.A.O., B.Ch., D.R.C.O.G., D.T.M. and H., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(also Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Reigate M.B.)

GWENDOLYN R. TAPP, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PETER F. WEST, Cert.R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
R.S.H. Smoke Inspectors Diploma.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

JOHN W. TIFFNEY, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

J.L. GILL, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
(to 30.9.69)

G. PLANT, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
(to 31.8.69)

NORMAN J.D. PAYNE, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
R.S.H. Smoke Inspectors Diploma.
(from 20.10.69)

ROBERT J. STURGESSION, Diploma P.H.I.E.B.
(from 20.10.69)

CLERK

Mrs. S. BEAUMONT

SHORTHAND TYPISTS (PART TIME)

Mrs. B. BOOTH
Mrs. W. THORNTON

RODENT OPERATOR

T. WILLIAMS

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1969.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report of the public health, sanitary circumstances and vital statistics of the Rural District of Godstone in the year 1969. The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1/70 of the Department of Health and Social Security, and contains the information requested in the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959. In most respects the statistics of the Godstone Rural District compare favourably with any recently recorded in the district and with those for the country as a whole. The resident population estimated by the Registrar General at mid 1969 was 44,970; this represents an increase of 340 over the previous year. This increase is made up as follows: 118 more births than deaths, 117 due to the boundary change by the inclusion of the Farleigh area, and the remaining 105, due to movement into the area.

The recorded birth rate of 13.1 shows a slight decrease over 1968 and was below the rate of 16.3 for England and Wales. The crude death rate at 9.2 is down on 1968 and below the national rate of 11.9. The main contributing causes of death were again heart disease and cancer.

It was not necessary in 1969 to exercise the powers conferred under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, to secure the compulsory removal of persons living in insanitary conditions and incapable of looking after themselves. Several cases where it was thought that such action might be necessary were investigated and the persons concerned were persuaded to accept institutional care.

The Report includes a brief account of the various routine activities of the Public Health Department with regard to measures taken to ensure a satisfactory standard of purity and quality of water, milk and food supplies, sanitary inspection duties under Public Health and Housing Acts, and Factories Acts, rodent control, refuse collection and other matters directly concerned in the promotion of communal health, environmental health and hygiene.

I gratefully acknowledge the co-operation of the medical practitioners in various public health matters.

My thanks are due also to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and consideration, to my colleagues in other departments of the Council for their help and indulgence, and to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal and efficient service throughout the year.

I am.

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM MOORE.

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION 1
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Land and Inland Water) in acres	53,512
Population at Census 1961	40,225
Registrar General's estimate of resident population at mid-year 1969	44,970
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April 1970, according to the Rate Books	14,018
Rateable Value (1st April 1970)	£2,080,904
Estimated Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£8,380

TABLE 1

The area and population at the 1961 Census of the various Parishes comprising the Rural District, the estimated population of each at Mid-Year 1969, and the rateable value of each Parish at 1st April, 1970, are as follows:-

PARISHES	AREA IN ACRES	CENSUS POPULATION OF PARISHES 1961	ESTIMATED POPULATION MID-YEAR 1969	RATEABLE VALUE AT 1.4.70.
Bletchingley	5,794	3,395	3,890	124,110
Burstow	4,750	4,374	4,627	181,122
Chelsham and Farleigh	3,708	1,402	1,508	53,244
Crowhurst	2,119	296	386	12,486
Felbridge	2,080	1,372	1,548	97,248
Godstone	4,483	5,510	5,859	234,601
Horne	3,603	805	866	31,908
Limpsfield	4,588	3,296	3,883	217,949
Lingfield	9,239	6,871	7,700	307,182
Nutfield	3,390	2,597	2,752	175,875
Oxted	3,743	8,094	9,138	492,711
Tandridge	2,722	713	906	26,854
Tatsfield	1,304	1,462	1,741	74,495
Titsey	1,989	155	166	12,662
(S.E. Gas & Electricity Boards)	-	-	-	38,457
TOTALS	53,512	40,342	44,970	2,080,904

TABLE II
VITAL STATISTICS

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>1969</u>
<u>Number of Live Births</u> (legitimate and illegitimate)	584
Birth rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population	13.0
Birth rate (corrected with Area Comparability Factor)	13.1
Number of Still Births	3

<u>DEATHS</u>	
<u>Total number of Deaths</u>	467
Death rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population	10.4
Death rate (corrected with Area Comparability Factor)	9.2
<u>Natural increase of population during the year by excess of births over deaths</u>	117

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

<u>Male.....285</u>	<u>Female.....299</u>	<u>Total.....584</u>
Actual Birth rate per 1,000 population		13.0
Corrected Birth rate per 1,000 population		13.1
Birth rate England and Wales		16.3

<u>Illegitimate Live Births</u> per cent of total live births	6.0
<u>Still Births</u> Number	3
Rate per 1,000 total Births	5
Rate per 1,000 total Births England and Wales	13
<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	587

DEATHS (all ages)

<u>Male.....231</u>	<u>Female.....236</u>	<u>Total.....467</u>
Death rate (actual) per 1,000 of the population		10.4
Death rate (corrected) per 1,000 of the population		9.2
Death rate England and Wales		11.9

Number of Deaths of Infants

Under 1 year of age	5 male	2 female	Total: 7
Under 4 weeks of age	4 male	1 female	Total: 5
Under 1 week of age	3 male	1 female	Total: 4

Infant Mortality Rates

Under 1 year of age rate per 1,000 live births	10
Rate for England and Wales	18
Perinatal Mortality (deaths under 1 week of age and still births) rate per 1,000 live and still births	12
Rate for England and Wales	23

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths	NIL
------------------	-----

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE IN 1969

		M	F	TOTAL
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm - Oesophagus	2	-	2
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	6	7	13
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	10	7	17
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	19	2	21
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	11	11
B19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	1	1
B19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm - Prostate	6	-	6
B19(10)	Leukaemia	2	3	5
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	9	8	17
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	-	2	2
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	1	2
B23	Anaemias	-	2	2
B46(3)	Mental Disorders	1	6	7
B46(4)	Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	6	4	10
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	3	5
B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	5	7
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	64	30	94
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	14	19
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	22	36	58
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	12	17	29
B31	Influenza	1	2	3
B32	Pneumonia	24	42	66
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	4	10
B33(2)	Asthma	1	3	4
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	5	1	6
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	-	1
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	2	3
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
B46(8)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	-	1
B46(10)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	2	3
B42	Congenital Anomalies	2	2	4
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	3	1	4
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	2	4	6
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	5	11
BE48	All Other Accidents	2	7	9
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	3	2	5
BE50	All Other External Causes	1	-	1
	<u>TOTALS</u>	231	236	467

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Godstone Rural District are admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bletchingley, and Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise, they are sent to isolation hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Table IV shows the numbers of the various notifiable infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient.

The prevalence of the various notifiable infectious diseases is reviewed below.

Scarlet Fever

Nine cases of scarlet fever were notified; 5 less than in 1968. This disease continues to be clinically mild and it was not necessary to admit any case for treatment in hospital. Each case was investigated by the Public Health Inspectors in order to ascertain that home conditions were satisfactory and to give advice on preventing the spread of the disease.

Whooping Cough

The 3 cases of whooping cough were confined to the 2 - 4 years age group and showed a decrease on the figure for 1968.

Measles

One hundred and five cases were notified during 1969. It was expected that this disease would be more prevalent during 1969 but the epidemic in the Spring of 1967, when 1,120 cases were notified, was not repeated.

Bacillary Dysentery

The 97 cases of dysentery which were notified were due to shigella sonnei and reached epidemic proportions in the early months of 1969. These cases were centred on the Hurst Green Primary, Merle Common and South Godstone Primary schools, and there is no doubt that the disease spread to these schools from the Smallfield area where there had been an epidemic in the latter part of 1968. By excluding the 5 to 8 year old cases from school until a negative stool specimen had been produced, and all other children with symptoms, together with routine cleaning of the school sanitary accommodation, the disease was brought under control.

The vast majority of cases were cleared without resorting to antibiotic treatment and I am pleased to report that with the co-operation of the medical practitioners, it was proved that the cases generally cleared up more quickly than in the past when treatment with drugs was the rule rather than the exception.

Poliomyelitis

No confirmed case of poliomyelitis occurred during the year.

Paratyphoid

No case of paratyphoid was notified in 1969.

Food Poisoning

A total of 15 cases of food poisoning were notified to the Public Health Department and another 12 cases were found as a result of bacteriological investigation of patients referred by medical practitioners.

Ten cases were due to *Salmonella typhi murium*, 14 cases were found to be due to some 7 of the more uncommon types of *salmonellae*. Three of the notified cases were typical of staphylococcal food poisoning and resulted from a meal consumed in a London restaurant.

Two family outbreaks were almost certainly attributed to cross contamination with unsterilised pet food. In both instances, it was not possible to conclusively prove this but both households kept pet food in the domestic refrigerator and handled it in the kitchen.

Control of Infectious Diseases

All infectious disease enquiries are made by the Public Health Inspectors and these enquiries include the tracing of contacts and collection of specimens for despatch to the Public Health Laboratory. During the year 2,258 visits were made, including several visits for the surveillance of people who had entered the country without a valid certificate of smallpox vaccination.

Laboratory Facilities

All pathological specimens, milk and water samples are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Brighton. Samples put on the train at Redhill or Horley, or on the Southdown bus at East Grinstead, are collected at Brighton at 2 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. the same day.

The Director, Dr. Jameson, and his Chief Technician, Mr. Emberley, have given a most efficient service in dealing with all the samples and specimens, and their unfailing help and advice on the interpretation of the results has, as usual, been greatly appreciated.

Disinfection of Bedding, etc.

There is no disinfection station within the district and by arrangement with the Reigate Borough Council, bedding and other items requiring sterilization are dealt with at the disinfector at Earlswood.

Mortuary Facilities

Modern Mortuary facilities are provided at the rear of the Council Offices at Oxted; they are also used by The Caterham & Warlingham Urban District Council.

There are facilities for post mortem examinations and include a refrigeration unit. The building is well designed with modern surfaces, which makes the work of maintaining a high standard of cleanliness much easier. Mention of Mr. Chapman's work in assisting the Pathologist and the high standard of cleanliness must be made.

A total number of 86 bodies were admitted during the year; 50 from the Caterham area and 36 from Godstone Rural District.

TABLE IV
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
NOTIFIED IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF
GODSTONE IN THE YEAR 1969

	Cases notified in age groups													Totals
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 & over			
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	2	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Measles	2	9	15	15	10	40	3	9	1	-	-	-	-	104
Dysentery	3	5	3	3	6	46	7	11	13	-	-	-	-	97

	Under 1 year	2 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 to 74	75 & over	Total	
Infective Jaundice	-	-	1	3	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	9

	Under 5 years	5 to 14	15 to 44	45 to 64	65 & over	Total
Food Poisoning	1	4	8	-	2	15

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of the new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table V. The numbers are small and occurred mainly in the older age group. May I stress again the importance of the Mass Radiography Service, especially for immigrants entering the country.

No special action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1952 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and employed in the milk trade), nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The South East Surrey Care Association which works in close association with the local Chest Clinics, continued its activities on behalf of tuberculous persons and their dependants.

TABLE V

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND TYPE OF DISEASE

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>					
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-respiratory</u>		<u>Other Forms</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	1	-	-	-	1	-
55 - 64 years	1	2	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	3	2	-	-	1	1

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The following tables indicate the notifications and numbers of vaccinations and immunisations carried out during the year.

Vaccination against Smallpox

	0-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	Total
Primary Vaccination	2	5	1	2	242	77	43	372
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	-	-	14	184	198

Vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Measles, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus - Completed Primary Courses.

Year of Birth	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962/65	Others under age 16	Total
Triple DTP	22	198	8	1	3	24	256
Diphtheria/Pertussis	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	2	1	-	3	45	51
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pertussis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	2	29	31
Measles	2	97	103	65	124	9	400
Poliomyelitis	18	221	20	4	10	30	303

Reinforcing Doses	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962/65	Others under age 16	Total
Triple DTP	-	48	102	15	56	6	227
Diphtheria/Pertussis	-	-	3	-	17	-	20
Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	2	13	3	455	55	528
Diphtheria	-	1	1	-	12	2	16
Pertussis	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Tetanus	-	2	1	2	8	46	59
Poliomyelitis	1	44	91	13	561	162	872

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Seven main sewage disposal works serve the large centres of population in the rural district. The reconstruction of the Burstow works at Smallfield was completed during the year and officially opened on 15th October, 1969. Several new mechanical features have been incorporated in this disposal works, although I am not in agreement with the use of final effluent for hosing down and cleaning operations at the works.

In addition to the main disposal works, there are 6 small treatment plants and 10 pumping units throughout the area.

The work of constructing sewers in the Keepers Corner area at Burstow was started during the year but, due to delays caused by unsatisfactory contractors, the scheme will not be completed within the scheduled time.

The Carlton Road, South Godstone area, the Felcourt area and parts of Outwood, are all scheduled for main drainage but, apart from the scheme for Crowhurst Waste, no progress has been made in the elimination of cesspool/septic tank sewage disposal systems in these areas.

Seventeen properties were connected to existing public sewers during 1969.

Water Supply

With the exception of the Parish of Tatsfield, which obtains its supply mainly from the Metropolitan Water Board, and some 24 dwellings in the Parish of Titsey, which have a filtered piped supply from a privately owned deep bore well, the whole of the Rural District is supplied by the East Surrey Water Company. In parts of the Parish of Oxted, the Parish of Limpsfield and the parts of Tatsfield supplied by the Company, the water is derived from the lower green-sand, and elsewhere, from deep borings in the chalk; the water from both sources is chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers.

The supplies from the public water mains were adequate in quantity throughout the year. The quality, as revealed by chemical and bacteriological examination at regular intervals, was invariably reported to be satisfactory. No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the East Surrey Water Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and bacteriologically about 40 times a year, under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company; samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the Analyst's reports are circulated to all the districts concerned.

Supplies from rainwater tanks are confined to outlying dwellings in the Parish of Tatsfield and, not infrequently, fail completely after prolonged periods of dry weather. In such an emergency and, in order to replenish the drinking water supplies of the dwellings affected, the Metropolitan Water Board conveys water by tanker on payment of a small charge to cover transport costs.

There is a natural fluoride content of between 0.1 to 0.15 parts per million in the water from the Metropolitan Water Board and the East Surrey Water Company. No decision has yet been made on the question of adding fluoride to water as a preventive measure.

The estimated number of dwelling houses in each parish supplied from the public water mains (direct to houses and by means of stand-pipes), wells and rainwater tanks are set out in Table VII. The population supplied under each heading is shown in brackets.

TABLE VII

WATER SUPPLY

	Direct to Houses	Wells and Land Springs	Rain Water Tanks
Bletchingley	1,058 (3,882)	3 (8)	-
Burstow	1,390 (4,620)	2 (7)	-
Chelsham & Farleigh	108 (1,506)	-	1 (2)
Crowhurst	115 (386)	-	-
Felbridge	617 (1,548)	-	-
Godstone	2,088 (5,849)	4 (10)	-
Horne	266 (866)	-	-
Limpsfield	1,103 (3,879)	1 (4)	-
Lingfield	2,390 (7,699)	1 (1)	-
Nutfield	866 (2,752)	-	-
Oxted	3,205 (9,138)	-	-
Tandridge	234 (906)	-	-
Tatsfield	491 (1,666)	-	27 (75)
Titsey	48 (166)	-	-
TOTALS	13,979 (44,863)	11 (30)	28 (77)

TABLE VI.

COUNTY COUNCIL CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Address of Clinic	Infant Welfare	Ante-Natal	Dental	Eye	General Medical	Physiotherapy	Speech Therapy
<u>BLETTINGLEY</u> Church Room	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>BLINDLEY HEATH</u> Church Hall	Friday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Friday p.m.	-	-
<u>DORMANSLAND</u> Baptist Chapel	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>GODSTONE</u> Godstone Club	Wednesday p.m. (1st 3rd & 5th)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st 3rd & 5th)	-	-
<u>HURST GREEN</u> St. Agatha's Hall	Monday p.m.	-	-	-	Monday p.m.	-	-
<u>LIMPSFIELD</u> St. Andrew's Hall	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>LINGFIELD</u> 26, Bakers Lane (Lingfield 45)	Tuesday p.m.	-	-	-	Tuesday p.m.	By appointment	By appointment
<u>OXFORD</u> Station Road East (Oxted 3164)	Tuesday p.m.	Monday a.m. (2nd & 4th)	Wednesday a.m. and p.m. (2nd)	Monday p.m. (2nd)	Tuesday p.m.	By appointment	-
<u>SMALLFIELD</u> Church Hall	Thursday p.m. (1st 3rd & 5th)	-	-	Wednesday a.m. (1st 3rd & 4th)	Monday a.m. (2nd & 4th)	By appointment	-
<u>SOUTH GODSTONE</u> Lagham Hall	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>SOUTH NUTFIELD</u> Village Hall	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>TATSFIELD</u> Parish Hall	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
					Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1969.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be given the opportunity of commenting upon the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1969. Details of the work of the inspectorate are given in the Report and in the various tables, but I should like to make special mention of the following matters.

The period under review began with an epidemic of sonnei dysentery: having managed to clear up a large outbreak, which was centred in the Smallfield area, by the end of 1968, attention had to be switched to the Hurst Green and South Godstone areas, when the children returned to school after their Xmas holiday. Epidemics of the size encountered in recent years involve many hours of work to the detriment of other routine inspections. The magnitude of the task is demonstrated by the 2,258 visits made by the Inspectors in the investigation of cases, of contacts and the collection of specimens, etc. Staff changes during the year were also responsible for certain disruption of the work, although I am well satisfied with progress made during the year with several aspects of the work. The Council agreed to the appointment of a Technical Assistant to assist with the more routine work. This appointment was not, however, filled until March, 1970.

A Housing Survey was started early in the year and steady progress was made throughout the year. By using certain information from the Rural Housing Survey, which was carried out in 1946/47, much time was saved. Landlords and owner occupiers were given lists of defects and, where appropriate, details of the grants available for the improvement of properties were included. With the advent of the Housing Act 1969 and the provisions relating to Qualification Certificates, it was soon realised that the Public Health Inspectors were most fitted to carry out the detailed surveys and judgement of fitness of houses for human habitation. In December, the Council agreed that the Public Health Inspectors should participate in the administration of the Improvement Grant Scheme by carrying out the initial inspections on grant applications.

In order to exercise some control over the numerous fairs and circuses which visit the district, the Council was asked to evoke its powers under the Public Health Act 1961, to adopt the Model Byelaws for Pleasure Fairs. It was also agreed to make Byelaws for Hairdressers and Barbers.

The various road improvements which have been carried out in recent years have produced several lay-bys on the A25, which traverses the district from Nutfield to Limpsfield. Considerable mis-use of these parking areas takes place, particularly throughout the summer by lorry drivers, motorists and touring caravans, and the need to provide a public convenience on this route was reported to the Public Health Committee in June, 1969. The Council agreed to instal a mobile public convenience and it was hoped that this facility would have been established in time for the peak holiday period.

I should like to express my thanks to Dr. Moore for his ready assistance and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and confidence in my efforts to fulfill my many duties. My thanks are also due to my Deputy, Mr. Tiffney, and to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyalty and hard work throughout the year.

P. F. WEST.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

H O U S I N G

TABLE VIII

1.	<u>Inspection of Dwelling Houses during 1969.</u>	
	(a) Inspections and re-inspections under Housing Acts.	814
	(b) Number of houses found to be so unfit as to be incapable of repair at reasonable cost.	87
2.	<u>Unfit Houses</u> represented to Public Health Committee for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957.	78
	(a) Number of Demolition Orders made.	27
	(b) Number of Closing Orders made.	11
	(c) Number of Undertakings accepted.	40
3.	<u>Houses Demolished</u> as a result of formal action under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957.	15
4.	<u>Houses Reconditioned.</u>	
	(a) Undertakings cancelled.	35
	(b) Demolition Orders revoked.	12
	(c) Closing Orders revoked.	4
5.	<u>New Houses Erected.</u>	
	(a) Number of houses completed by private enterprise.	178
	(b) Number of houses completed by Local Authority.	24
6.	<u>Housing Act 1969 - Qualification Certificates.</u>	
	(a) Number of applications received (26.7.69 to 31.12.69).	7
	(b) Number of Certificates of Provisional approval issued.	NONE
	(c) Number of Qualification Certificates issued.	NONE
	(d) Number of applications withdrawn.	1
7.	<u>Improvement Grants.</u>	
	(a) Number of Standard Grants approved.	12
	(b) Number of Discretionary Grants approved.	39
8.	<u>Common Lodging Houses.</u>	

There are no common lodging houses in the Godstone Rural District.

SECTION IV

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The factories on the Register of the Local Authority as follows:-

TABLE IX

	Mechanical Power	Non-Mechanical Power	TOTAL
Aircraft Components	1	-	1
Aircraft Engine Repairs	2	-	2
Bakeries	2	-	2
Brick Making	2	-	2
Builders	4	-	4
Cabinet Maker	1	-	1
Carbon Paper Manufacture	1	-	1
Chemical Manufacturers	1	-	1
Cleaners and Dyers	2	-	2
Concrete Products	2	-	2
Cosmetics	1	-	1
Disinfectant Manufacturers	1	-	1
Dental Mechanics	1	-	1
Electrical Engineering	1	-	1
Electronic Equipment Repairs	1	-	1
Fruit Storage	2	-	2
Fullers Earth Works	2	-	2
Grass Drying	1	-	1
Grinding Tool Repairs	2	-	2
Heating Engineers	1	-	1
Instrument Makers	1	-	1
Joinery	2	-	2
Knackers Yard	-	1	1
Launderies	1	-	1
Lead Lights and Glass Cutting	1	-	1
Light Engineering Works	22	-	22
Motor Body Builders	2	-	2
Motor Repairers	21	-	21
Provender Miller	1	-	1
Printers	3	-	3
Radio Repairs	4	-	4
Rectifiers	1	-	1
Sawmills	3	-	3
Structural Engineers	1	-	1
Smithies	2	-	2
Tile Making	1	-	1
Wax Modelling	1	-	1
Woodcrafts	1	-	1
TOTALS	99	1	100

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Proceedings (7)
Painting plastics	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Lampshades	8	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL:	11	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

FIRE PRECAUTIONS (SECTION 40 to 52)

The Surrey County Council Fire Service have the responsibility of administering this section of the Factories Act. Close liaison is maintained with the Fire Brigade Headquarters on all matters of mutual interest, in particular, alterations to existing buildings, so that advice can be given on the type of fire precautions most suited to the premises under consideration.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act 1952 and Regulations 1953.
Oil Heater Regulations 1962 and 1966.

The vast majority of heating appliances are now manufactured to conform to British Standard Specifications and no action under this Act was required during the year. Since this Act came into force, the number of accidents attributable to absence of guards has declined, although old appliances which do not conform to the requirements of the Act are still found in use.

The following Table indicating the work carried out during the year 1969 in connection with the inspection of Factories, is submitted in accordance with Section 153 of the Act:-

INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	1	NIL	NIL
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	99	100	12	NIL
3. Other premises under the Act (excluding outworker's premises).	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL:	100	101	12	NIL

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Overcrowding (S.2)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b) Unsuitable or defective	12	11	NIL	3	NIL
(c) Not separate for sexes	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL:	12	11	NIL	3	NIL

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963.

A total of 126 inspections and visits were made to Registered Premises during the year and Table X gives details of registrations and general inspections made.

TABLE X

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

Registrations and General Inspections during the year ended 31st December 1969.

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year.	Total number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	4	92	38
Retail shops	4	182	42
Wholesale shops warehouses	NIL	1	NIL
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	NIL	36	24
Fuel storage depots	NIL	2	NIL
TOTALS:	8	313	104
Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises under the Act.			<u>126</u>
Class of Workplace.	Number of Persons employed.		
Offices	899		
Retail shops	742		
Wholesale Departments, warehouses	3		
Catering Establishments open to public	282		
Canteens	24		
Fuel storage depots	<u>15</u>		
	TOTAL:	<u>1,965</u>	

Two accidents were reported; both were fully investigated and measures to prevent recurrence suggested. Neither accident was fatal and nor were they found to be due to contraventions of the Act.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Return of Samples submitted by the
Surrey County Council and analysed during 1969
RURAL DISTRICT OF GODSTONE

Food and Drugs Sampling

The Surrey County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Godstone Rural District for the purpose of sampling under Sections 89-99 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955. The Inspectors are based at the Divisional Office in Dorking and the following tables show details of 114 samples taken in the Godstone Rural District, and 877 samples taken elsewhere in the County.

Food complaints made to the Public Health Department are referred to the Divisional Office when examination by the Public Analyst is required and food adulteration is suspected. I wish to record my thanks to the Divisional Inspectorate for their co-operation and willing assistance during the year.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Batter mix	-	1	1			
Beef, minced	2	-	2			
Bread	1	-	1			
Cheese	1	-	1			
Confectionery, flour	4	-	4	1	-	1
Confectionery, sugar	2	-	2	1	-	1
Cornflour	1	-	1			
Cream	1	-	1			
Croquettes, liver & bacon	1	-	1			
Fish dinner, creamed	1	-	1			
Flour	1	-	1			
Frankfurters	1	-	1			
Gin	1	-	1			
Instant whip	1	-	1			
Jam	1	-	1			
Jelly	1	-	1			
Marzipan	1	-	1			
Meat, cooked & prepared	6	5	11			
Milk	68	-	68			
Peanuts, roasted	1	-	1			
Pies, meat	1	-	1			
Pineapple preserve	-	1	1			
Potatoes, mashed instant	1	-	1			
Pudding, meat	1	-	1			
Sausage rolls	1	-	1			
Sausages	3	-	3			
Suet	1	-	1			
Vodka	1	-	1			
Whisky	1	-	1			
Yogurt, low fat	1	-	1			
TOTALS:	107	7	114	2	-	2

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Return of Samples analysed during the year 1969

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Apples	-	1	1			
Apricots, dried	2	-	2			
Baby and Junior Foods	21	-	21			
Batter mix	-	1	1			
Beef, minced	7	-	7			
Beer	3	-	3			
Beverage, milk	-	1	1			
Black Pudding	2	-	2			
Bread	5	1	6	4	-	4
Butter	4	-	4			
Canelloni	-	1	1			
Cheese	3	-	3			
Cheese Sauce mix	1	-	1			
Cheese Spread	1	1	2			
Chicken and Ham Patty	-	1	1			
Chicken in Sauce	-	1	1			
Chicken mince, savoury	-	1	1			
Chocolate, drinking	2	1	3			
Cider	4	4	8			
Cloves, ground	1	-	1			
Coconut, dessicated	1	-	1			
Coffee	1	-	1			
Coffee, instant	4	-	4			
Coffee mate, instant	1	-	1			
Confectionery, flour	10	2	12	1	-	1
Confectionery, sugar	6	3	9	1	-	1
Cornflour	1	-	1			
Cornish Pasties	4	3	7	*1	1	2
Crab, dressed	1	-	1			
Cream	1	4	5			
Cream, double	2	-	2			
Cream, sterilised	1	2	3			
Croquettes, liver and bacon	1	-	1			
Curry and rice	1	-	1			
Custard, pouring	1	-	1			
Dates	1	-	1			
Dessert Topping	2	-	2			
Faggots	1	-	1			
Figs	-	1	1			
Fish Dinner, creamed	1	-	1			
Fish paste	2	-	2			
Flour	7	-	7	1	-	1
Frankfurters	1	-	1			
French Dressing	1	-	1			
Fruit Salad, tinned	-	10	10			
Gin	3	-	3			
Grapefruit juice	1	-	1			
Grapefruit, tinned	1	-	1			
Gravy mix	1	-	1			
Grills, liver and bacon	1	-	1			
Haslet	1	-	1			
Honey	1	-	1			
Ice Cream	5	-	5			
Ice Cream Powder	1	-	1			
Instant Whip	1	-	1			
Invalid food	-	1	1			
Carried forward	124	40	164	8	1	9

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Brought forward	124	40	164	8	1	9
Jam	3	2	5			
Jelly	2	-	2			
Lamb Dinner, strained	-	1	1			
Lard	1	-	1			
Loganberries, tinned	1	-	1			
Margarine	3	3	6	-	1	1
Marmalade	1	2	3			
Marzipan	2	1	3			
Meat, cooked and prepared	33	16	49	4	1	5
Meat paste	1	-	1			
Milk	449	11	460	+12	-	12
Milk, evaporated	2	1	3			
Milk, skimmed, low fat	1	-	1			
Mincemeat	2	1	3			
Mint sauce	-	1	1			
Noodles in cheese sauce	1	-	1			
Oatmeal	-	1	1			
Oil, cooking	3	-	3			
Oranges	-	1	1			
Peanut Butter	2	-	2			
Peanuts, roasted	1	-	1			
Peel, mixed, cut	1	-	1			
Perry	-	2	2			
Pickle	1	-	1			
Pie filling, fruit	-	1	1			
Pies, Devon	-	1	1			
Pies, fruit	2	-	2			
Pies, meat	9	4	13	1	-	1
Pineapple preserve	-	1	1			
Potatoes	1	-	1	1	-	1
Potatoes, mashed, instant	2	-	2			
Puddings, meat	2	2	4			
Puddings, rice	5	-	5			
Raspberries, tinned	1	-	1			
Rice	1	1	2			
Rolls, buttered	1	-	1			
Sauce	1	-	1			
Sausage, garlic	1	-	1			
Sausage, liver	1	-	1			
Sausage Meat	2	-	2			
Sausage Rolls	2	1	3			
Sausages	50	1	51	2	-	2
Sausages, tinned	2	-	2			
Shandy	3	-	3			
Soft Drinks	13	5	18			
Soup	2	2	4			
Spaghetti	1	-	1			
Stuffing, sage and onion	-	1	1			
Suet	1	1	2			
Sugar	2	-	2			
Sugar, raw Barbados	1	1	2	1	1	2
Sweetener pen	-	1	1			
Tea	2	-	2			
Tea, instant	1	-	1			
Tomatoes	-	1	1			
Vodka	2	-	2			
Wheat, whole, shredded	1	-	1			
Whisky	3	2	5			
Wine	1	-	1			
Yoghurt, low fat	3	4	7	1	1	2
Carried forward	753	113	866	30	5	35

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Brought forward	753	113	866	30	5	35
<u>DRUGS:</u>						
Anti-rheumatic cream	3	-	3	3	-	3
Aspirin tablets, soluble	1	-	1			
Bronchial balsam	-	1	1			
Castor Oil, B.P.	-	1	1			
Cyclamate sweetener	-	1	1			
Mandrax tablets	1	-	1			
Sodium Saccharin tablets	-	1	1			
Weight reducing tablets	-	1	1			
Zinc & Castor Oil cream	-	1	1			
TOTALS:	758	119	877	33	5	38

- * Legal proceedings were instituted against a food manufacturing Company for selling Cornish Pasties having a meat content of less than 12½%, as required. On conviction, the Company was fined £15. with £10. costs.
- + Legal proceedings were instituted against a Dairy Company for selling a one-third pint bottle of milk (School Milk) containing a garden slug. On pleading "Guilty" the Company was convicted and fined £10. with £7.7.0d. costs.

Food Complaints

Nine complaints of unsound food were reported to the Department and a full investigation into the circumstances of each case took place.

Mould growths were found in 5 cases involving wrapped bread, an iced cake, sausage rolls and pork meat pies. A tin of cream was found to have been overheated and fresh cream was found to be sour following extremely high overnight temperature. Due to poor storage conditions a packet of dried fruit was found to have been sold in an advanced state of fermentation, and a tin of paprika found to contain scores of dead insect larvae must have been many years old. The cases of mould growths were mainly due to failures on the part of the shopkeepers to maintain proper stock rotation and the reluctance to destroy food kept in excess of the shelf life.

Two prosecutions were made under Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955, for the sale of food which was not of the quality demanded. The cases involved a mouldy steak with kidney pie and a packet of fermenting dried fruit; both arose from food sold from the same shop and the shopkeeper was fined £25 with 5 guineas cost and £10 with £4 costs respectively.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

203 visits for routine inspections and re-inspections were made during the year.

A generally good standard of food handling and cleanliness of premises was maintained throughout the area and it was not necessary to take formal action in respect of any premises in 1969.

The following table indicates the position with regard to washing facilities at the various food premises.

Principal Trade	Total No. of Premises	No.fitted to comply with Regulation 16 i.e.Provision of wash-hand basins	No.to which Regulation 19 applies, i.e. where open food is handled	No.fitted to comply with Regulation 19 i.e.Provision of sinks,etc.
Bakers	13	12	13	13
Butchers	20	19	20	19
Catering i.e.Cafes, Restaurants	28	26	28	28
Chemists	6	6	-	-
Clubs, Village Halls, Works Canteens, Residential Premises	90	87	90	81
Confectioners	26	19	26	19
Fishmongers	4	4	4	4
Greengrocers	24	20	23	19
Grocers	77	70	77	68
Off Licences	4	2	1	1
Poultry Processing, etc.	19	5	19	14
Public Houses	55	50	55	53
Schools, Hospitals	42	40	42	42

Food Hygiene (Markets and Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966.

These Regulations came into force on 1st January, 1967.

There are no markets or stalls in the Godstone Rural District, but 11 inspections of mobile shops and delivery vehicles were recorded. Apart from one or two minor items, there were no serious contraventions requiring attention. Delivery vehicles operating to and from premises where washing facilities are provided enjoy certain exemptions from the Regulations. The butchers' old custom of delivering meat unwrapped from trays necessitates provision of hand washing facilities on the vehicle. The majority of butchers now wrap their deliveries since it is difficult to instal hand washing facilities with hot water in their small delivery vans.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district and there was no cause to submit any samples for examination.

These Regulations, which came into force on 1st January 1964, require all liquid egg intended for use in food for human consumption to be pasteurised. These Regulations were necessary to curb the salmonelli infections which were continually being isolated from samples of this commodity.

The Meat (Sterilization) Regulations 1969

On 1st November 1969, the above Regulations came into force with the general effect that all meat found to be unfit for human consumption and all knacker meat must be sterilized before it is sold. These Regulations replaced The Meat (Staining & Sterilization) Regulations 1960, and gives Local Authorities stronger control over the disposal of unfit meat in a further effort to protect public health.

The danger to human health from unsterilized knacker meat is two-fold; there is the risk of food poisoning and the risk of hydatid disease. The survey carried out by the Central Public Health Laboratory revealed that 11% of knacker meat and 22% of raw pet meat contained *Salmonellae*, which are the organisms responsible for the majority of food poisoning. The sterilization of unfit meat and knacker meat before sale will break one important link in the chain of transportation of infection.

These Regulations apply to the slaughterhouses in this district. Unfit meat is transported in a lockable container to a processing establishment outside the area.

MILK SUPPLY

The bulk of the milk sold in the district is pasteurised milk, processed and bottled outside the district and transported to the distributing depots by road. The four main distributing depots are situated at Oxted, Dormansland, Outwood and Godstone. There are also distributing depots located in towns in neighbouring districts, from which daily deliveries to the fringes of the area are made.

A small amount of untreated milk is sold in the area, although most of it is bottled on farms outside the district.

Ultra heat treated milk appears to be gaining in popularity and replacing sales of sterilized milk in grocers shops and supermarkets. This milk has the advantage of a superior taste to sterilized milk and is prepacked in disposable waxed paper cartons. Whilst it has longer keeping properties in the unopened container, once it has been opened it has the same life as ordinary pasteurised milk.

The Surrey County Council is the licensing authority for the sale of Special Designation Milks, but the sampling responsibilities are delegated to district councils. Distributors of milk are registered by the District Council; 39 distributors were on the register during the year of 1969.

In addition to the sampling of pasteurised milk for testing the efficiency of pasteurisation and cleanliness, untreated milk is submitted to a biological examination for the presence of tuberculosis and *brucella abortus*. The majority of untreated milk samples are taken from farms in order to obtain a sample which is representative of the whole milking herd. Only farms holding Producer/Retailer licences issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food are at present checked every three months. There are, however, many other dairy farms in this area producing milk which is consumed by the farmers' families and farm workers in the raw state. These people are liable to contract milk borne diseases and they should be afforded protection from these infections by routine sampling for the presence of *brucella abortus*.

Samples of milk are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Brighton and a total of 142 samples were taken during the year; 83 were pasteurised milk, 47 untreated milk and 12 were ultra heat treated milk.

Of the samples submitted. 7 samples of pasteurised milk failed the methylene blue test and 3 samples of untreated milk (from 2 herds on farms outside the district) were found to contain live *brucella abortus*.

Inspection of Food

51 visits to food premises were made at the request of traders for the voluntary surrender of food; the majority of the food inspected was as a result of the breakdown of frozen food cabinets.

Poultry Hygiene and Inspection

- (i) Number of poultry processing premises - 17
- (ii) Number of visits to premises - 55
- (iii) Total number of birds processed - approx. 10,500
- (iv) Types of birds processed - Turkeys 8,100: Capons 2,000: Hens 400
- (v) Percentage rejected as unfit - Turkeys 0.1%: Hens 5%
- (vi) Weight condemned as unfit - 150 lbs.
- (vii) Comments on poultry processing and inspection:

The 17 processing premises comprise 14 farms where the birds are reared and slaughtered; the other 3 premises are the licensed slaughterhouses. 3 of the 14 farms have up-to-date mechanical plant and equipment in order to produce "oven ready" poultry. The vast majority of the poultry is slaughtered for the Christmas trade.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

The 3 private slaughterhouses and 1 knackers yard were licensed during the year, although 1 slaughterhouse and the knackers yard were not used for the slaughter of animals.

There was a decrease in the animals slaughtered compared with previous years; the throughput was 1,850 carcases, a reduction of 528 over the previous year.

Post mortem inspections are carried out on a rota system by the District Public Health Inspectors and a total of 301 visits were made.

There was also a reduction in the amount of overtime necessary to maintain the 100% inspection of carcases. Most of the slaughtering is done after shop hours with part-time slaughtermen. Six slaughtermen hold licences issued by the Council.

The quality of the meat inspected was of the usual high standard; this fact is reflected in the details of the quantity of meat rejected as unfit for human consumption. The majority of condemnations were due to liver fluke. The decrease in the incidence of *cysticercus bovis* over the past few years was further confirmed during the year and I am pleased to report that only one case of *cysticercus bovis* was found.

Inspection charges are not made by the Council. When the question of charges was first introduced, the Council decided not to charge butchers for meat inspection because it was considered to be part of the public health service which is available to other food trades free of charge.

Details of the number of animals slaughtered, carcases inspected and condemnations are set out in the following table.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART DURING YEAR 1969.

	Cattle excluding Bulls & Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	224	1	120	857	648
Number inspected	224	1	120	857	648
All diseases except <u>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	58	-	-	108	52
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.88	0.00	0.00	12.60	8.02
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.08
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	1	-
Carcases sub- mitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Collection and Disposal of Refuse

A weekly collection of household refuse was maintained throughout the district during the year. The bonus incentive scheme has been the main contributing factor to a stable labour force; it has also been responsible for reducing the delays caused by public holidays to an absolute minimum and results in a most efficient collection service.

Trade refuse from shops is collected by the Council and charges are made at the rate of £2 per annum per bin in excess of one free bin. Food premises usually have a twice weekly collection at a small extra charge. Traders who are liable for these charges are required to pay in advance for this service.

It has not been expedient to introduce the paper sack system of storage and collection of household refuse in view of financial restrictions which have been imposed on Local Authorities.

With the increase of gas and oil fired central heating systems, the content of solid fuel ash in the refuse has diminished but the amount of paper has increased and is, of course, due to the fact that almost all retail commodities are wrapped or contained in packages.

In the belief that it reduces indiscriminate tipping about the countryside, the Council gives a free service for special collections of bulky household refuse. Requests for this service have increased considerably after publicity of the facility was given to ratepayers in a news letter from the Chairman of the Council. Charges at the rate of 10/- minimum to £2.5.0d. per lorry load are made for non-domestic refuse.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in a dis-used sandpit at Outwood Lane, Bletchingley. Refuse from the Caterham & Warlingham U.D.C. is also disposed of by this Council on a joint tipping arrangement.

The refuse is consolidated and levelled with a mechanical shovel, which is also used for digging covering material on the site. Proper consolidation of the refuse assists in preventing rat infestations, which I am pleased to report have been of a minor nature during the year.

Civic Amenities Act 1967

The Civic Amenities Act 1967 came into operation on 27th August 1967 and the provisions of Part II were considered to be an extension of the refuse collection service and became the responsibility of the Public Health Department.

Because of the increasing value of tipping space, it was decided to abandon the use of the refuse tip for the disposal of old motor vehicles and to employ a firm of contractors specializing in this work. This firm undertake to remove any vehicle in the district for £3.5.0d. Residents find this to be a useful service and 93 unwanted motor cars were removed from private addresses. A further 91 abandoned vehicles were removed from commons, road verges, etc. The Council is obliged to provide a collecting depot where residents can dispose of their unwanted motor cars and it was decided to construct an enclosure at the Warren Lane Depot at Hurst Green. The collecting depot was completed early in 1969 and a total of 145 vehicles were received during the year. The Council's contractor removes these vehicles for final destruction at a cost of £3 per vehicle. Vehicles are removed on specially equipped transporters to a Proler Cohen plant at Hammersmith. This plant reduces the cars into small fragments and sorts the various metals ready for despatch to smelting plants where the metals are reclaimed.

Despite the publicity of the increased penalties for dumping litter and the abandonment of cars, a certain amount of rubbish is still found on the road verges and motor cars still appear as if by magic, in secluded areas of the district. As with the Litter Act, there is the difficulty of enforcement. The Highways Section of the Surrey County Council undertake the removal of motor vehicles causing obstructions on the highway.

The Council's freehold tipping area at Bletchingley is available to residents for the disposal of bulky refuse but has not been used to any extent.

Noise Abatement Act 1960

Three complaints of noise were investigated during the period under review. The exceptionally good summer weather enabled the members of a model aeroplane club to fly their aeroplanes late into the evenings to the annoyance of people living half a mile away. Consultations with the club were successful in limiting the hours of this activity.

Noise caused by dogs at an animal boarding establishment was investigated at night but there was no sufficient evidence to support a statutory nuisance. Because the Council took no action, the complainants took private action in July 1970; the case was dismissed by local magistrates because they were not satisfied that a nuisance had been created.

A complaint of noise from an engineering works which worked a night shift, was found to be from a compressor unit. During the construction of the building, little attention had been paid to sound proofing but, on receipt of this complaint, the company made several modifications to reduce the noise level.

Pets Shop Act 1951

No licences were issued during the year.

Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act 1960

Ten site licences were operating during the year. Of these, three licences were in respect of sites with some 78 caravans on them and the remaining eight were in respect of sites for individual caravans. All the above sites are privately owned for permanent residential purposes and a total of 86 caravans are stationed on them. Sixtythree inspections of caravan sites were made and, in all cases, the sites were found to be satisfactory and no formal action was necessary.

Formal action under Section 1 of the above Act was taken in respect of two landowners who had allowed itinerant caravanners to occupy their land. In both cases the summons was withdrawn after the caravans had been removed from the sites before the dates of the Court proceedings.

The Meadowside Mobile Homes Park at Limpsfield, which was opened in 1968, is owned by the Council and provides standings for 73 caravans. Each standing has a soil drainage connection, main water and electricity. The caravans have to be of modern design and up to the Council's standard before they are permitted on the site.

The site is controlled by the Housing Committee and the Housing Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management.

The Green Lane Caravan site for gypsies continued to promote environmental health problems in the surrounding area. Several cases of infective hepatitis, which occurred within a 3 mile radius of the encampment, had a direct link with certain gypsy families whose children attend schools in the locality. It is obvious from the experience gained from this site that the gypsy will not use communal toilets; each standing should have its own toilet and water supply and be surrounded by a fence. In my opinion, such communities should be limited to 25 caravans. To exceed this number produces management problems, overcrowding in local schools and employment difficulties for self-employed dealers in scrap metal, besides the health hazards which arise as a result of large families with primitive habits living in overcrowded conditions in sub-standard living accommodation.

The Community Centre continued to provide accommodation for clinics and welfare services, which have been much appreciated by the residents. The Nursery School, which is run by voluntary helpers, continued to be very popular with the mothers of young children.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The Council employ one full time Rodent Operator and give a free service to domestic premises. Business premises, including farms, are charged at the rate of 25/- per hour for treatments carried out.

The normal backlog of complaints accumulated during the winter months and it is on these occasions that the services of a second operator would be advantageous, although I am convinced that if the reservoirs of infestations could be located and dealt with before migration takes place, a winter influx could be avoided. The Council's sewage disposal works and refuse tips are inspected regularly and thereby major infestations have been avoided.

Publicity in the local Press and in the Chairman's Newsletter was welcomed in the winter when householders were told that indiscriminate feeding of birds was responsible for attracting rats to dwellinghouses.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food Annual Report on Rats and Mice is reproduced below. These figures indicate a small decrease compared with the previous year.

ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

(Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949)

Year ended 31st December 1969

TYPE OF PROPERTY

<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
14,571	642
472	9
356	6
116	3
16	-
16	-
-	-

SEWERS

4. Were any sewers infested by rats
during the year? No

Control of Insect Pests

The Council's Rodent Operator deals with reported infestations of insect pests, including fleas, cockroaches and wasps' nests. No bed bug infestations were reported during the year, although 3 complaints of fleas were found to be due to the cat, dog or poultry species.

The fine summer weather appeared to be a contributing factor to the large number of wasps' nests which required attention. The Council's service for the destruction of wasps' nests is available to householders at a cost of £1.1.0d. per nest. The total number of nests dealt with was 71.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts 1928 & 1936

Eighty-eight premises are licensed under the above Regulations for the storage of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures. Of these, 32 are filling stations, 44 are private storage facilities and 12 are licensed can stores. Over 200,000 gallons of petroleum spirit are stored throughout the district in underground storage tanks.

Increasing distribution costs from refineries to the filling stations have dictated the size of modern underground storage tanks. Whereas, in the past, a 6,000 gallon tank was considered exceptionally large, this size is now the average capacity for a storage tank and the 500 gallons tank is obsolete by virtue of the cost of filling it.

During the year, 222 visits were made under the above Regulations and in the Autumn, Test Certificates in respect of the electrical installations of the pumps and premises were distributed in conformity with the recommendation contained in the revised Home Office Code of Practice that the renewal of annual licences should be subject to a satisfactory certificate. In view of the large number of installations which failed to pass the various tests which were applied, it was obvious that a compulsory test was long overdue. It was most regrettable that the SEEBOARD declined to carry out the testing of equipment and installations because the main difficulty encountered was the shortage of suitably qualified contractors able to undertake the work.

The revised Home Office Code of Practice recognises the sale of petroleum spirit by both attended and unattended self service and I anticipate that the Petroleum Companies will be encouraging their customers to instal the necessary equipment for sales of this kind in increasing numbers in future. The unattended self service site which was installed in 1967 has continued to operate without incident; an application which was approved in 1968 for a second site in the area has not yet been implemented.

The controversy caused by the Council's requirements on the use of approved portable containers continued throughout the lawn mowing season again this year. However, it has been generally well accepted by the majority and I can report that one incident which could have produced a serious accident was averted. This was the case of a child, aged 12 years, who asked for a gallon of petrol in an unsuitable can; on refusal and reference to the parent, it was found that the child should have asked for paraffin oil for a tilley lamp.

